Export and import with Thailand

156. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thailand is the fifteenth largest market for Indian items;

(b) if so, the value of export and import made by the two countries during the previous year;

(c) whether there is a gap in regard to export and import made between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to reduce the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) As per the statistics available with the DGCI&S, Thailand ranked 16th amongst the countries importing goods from India during 1995-96.

(b) The details of bilateral trade between the two country during 1995-96 arc as under:

(Value in Million US $)

Export	Import	Total Trade	Balance of Trade
474.31	168.29	642.60	(+) 306.02

(c) and (d) Since India is having favourable balance of trade with Thailand, no specific steps are contemplated to reduce the trade gap. However, various measures have been taken to boost the bilateral trade between India and Thailand which include holding of regular meetings of the Joint Trade Committee between the two countries, exchange of business delegations, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions in each other's countries and continuous interaction at official levels to sort out various operational problems in free flow of trade.

Trade with Saudi Arabia

157. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total import and export to Saudi Arabia during the last three years;

(b) the steps being taken to improve our trade relations with Saudi Arabia which is an important country in the Middle East; and

(c) the number of trade delegation sent to Saudi Arabia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) The total imports and exports to Saudi Arabia from India during the last three years has been as under:—

(Rupees in Crores)

Years	Exports	Imports
1993-94	1600.04	4864.69
1994-95	1368.00	4927.19
1995-96	1603.52	6748.17

(b) The steps taken to improve our trade relations with Saudi Arabia, include holding to Joint Commission Meetings, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, exchange of commercial information, exchange of delegations, diversification of export basket to include non-traditional products, reviewing the trade situation continuously to take corrective measures etc.

(c) Three official delegations were sent during last 3 years.

Export growth

158. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) how does the export growth during the current year compare with the performance during the previous fiscal year;

(b) the reasons for deceleration of export growth; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to restore dynamism of the export sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) As per DGC1&S data, exports during April-Dec. 1996 are estimated at US $ 24204.83 million representing a dollar growth of 6.4% over the level of corresponding period of last year. The growth rate during April-Dec. 1995 was 24.2% in dollar terms.

(b) and (c) Export performance is influenced inter alia by international market conditions, supportive infrastructure, credit availability and policy framework. Export promotion measures are continuously being taken by the Government through changes in policies and procedures for providing an export friendly environment, involvement of States in export promotion and in consultation with Trade and Industry.

Export growth in April-NoTembcr, 1996

* 159. MISS SARJOJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country's export- growth plummeted to the lowest during April-November, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to improve the export growth of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Exports growth has steadily increased in recent years including the current year.

Export performance for the period Apr-Nov. 1996 as compared to April-November, 1995 is as under:—

(Value in US $ Million)

1995-96	1996-97	% Growth
19796.92	21390.52	8.0

(c) Export performance is influenced interalia by international market conditions, supportive infrastructure and policy framework. Export promotion measures are continuously being taken by the Government through changes in policies and procedures for providing an export friendly environment, involvement of States in export promotion and in consultation with Trade and Industry.

निर्यात से होने वाली आय

160. **श्री इकबाल सिंह** : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में निर्यात से होने वाली आय के संबंध में सरकार द्वारा मोटे तौर पर क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया हैं:

(ख) पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में यह कितनी अधिक हैं और

(ग) चालू वित्तिय वर्ष में निर्यात से कितनी वास्तविक आय होने का अनुमाना हैं?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (डा. बोला बुल्ली रमैया) : (क) से (ग) वर्ष के प्रारम्भ में यह परिकल्पना की गई थी कि वर्ष 1995-96 में लगभग 32 बिलियन अमरीकी डालर के निर्यात की तुलना में 1996-97 के दौरान लगभग 37-38 बिलियन अमरीकी डालर तक पहुंच जाएगा। डी.सी.जी.आई. एण्ड एस. से प्राप्त आंकड़ो के अनुसार अप्रैल-दिसम्बर 1996 के दौरान 24.20 बिलियन अमरीकी डालर मूल्य का निर्यात हुआ। निष्पादन को देखते हुए यह महसूस किया गया है कि पहले की गई परिकल्पना की तुलना में वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान निर्यात अनेक अंतराष्ट्रीय और घरेलु कारकों के वजह से कम रहेगा।